

# ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

## "Blind Spots of the Believer (and How to See Again)"

Rabbi Cosmo Panzetta **Devotion and Discussion Questions** 

**Key Texts: 2 Peter 1:9-15;** 2 Cor 5:1-4; Jer. 18:5-10

Peter isn't scolding a baby congregation; he's pastoring a tested one. He's just laid out the qualities that grow out of truly knowing Yeshua (vv. 5–8). Then he sounds the alarm: if growth stalls, we don't just slow down—we start to lose sight. In 2 Peter 1:9–15, he gives three sight-saving practices for people who want to finish well: remember your cleansing, make firm your calling, and stay stirred by reminders. These aren't harsh demands; they're grace rhythms that keep us cleareyed and steady-footed until the King brings us home.

### 1. MEMORY: THE CLEANSING YOU FORGOT (2 PETER 1:9)

Peter names the first blind spot plainly: "But anyone who lacks these qualities is blind—nearsighted because he has forgotten his cleansing from past sins." (2 Peter 1:9, TLV, italics mine). Spiritual nearsightedness isn't just ignorance; it's amnesia. When we stop rehearsing what Yeshua has done, we start misreading what's right in front of us—temptations look bigger, hope looks smaller, and the joy of obedience fades. **Forgotten grace breeds fog.** 

How do we "see again"? See Again by Remembering Grace. Practice zikaron—intentional remembrance. Tell your testimony to someone this week. Thank Yeshua out loud for specific sins He's washed. Open the Word daily and let the Ruach reframe your day. Keep a short list of "forgiveness memories" in your journal. Remembered grace becomes lived grace.

## 2. MOTION: THE DILIGENCE YOU DODGED (2 PETER 1:10-11)

Peter's cure isn't mystical—it's muscular: "Therefore, brothers and sisters, make all the more effort to make your calling and election certain—for if you keep doing these things, you will never stumble." (2 Peter 1:10, TLV). We're not earning salvation; we're confirming it. Divine provision (vv. 3–4) meets human participation (vv. 5–7). Diligence is how grace takes shape in daily life. And the promise is strong: steady practice keeps you from the kind of fall that defines you. **See again by making it firm**.

"For in this way, entry into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Messiah Yeshua, will be richly provided for you." (2 Peter 1:11, TLV). God supplies richly; we respond diligently. This week, pick one quality from the list—self-control in your media habits, endurance in a hard relationship, brotherly love toward a difficult person—and practice it on purpose. Your part is effort; His part is abundance. Together, your calling gets concrete and your steps get stable.

# 3. MENTORS: THE REMINDERS YOU NEED (2 PETER 1:12-15)

**See again by staying stirred.** Peter writes with deathbed urgency: "Therefore I intend to keep reminding you of these things, even though you know them and are well-grounded in the truth that you have. I think it right to stir you up with a reminder, as long as I remain alive in this 'tent'... knowing that my death is soon... And I will make every effort for you to always remember these things even after my departure." (2 Peter 1:12–15, TLV). Even mature believers need to be "stirred up." Reminders are not insults; they are lifelines.

So build a reminder-rhythm: daily Scripture, prayer, and honest community where someone loves you enough to say, "Remember." Make a "reminder team"—two or three people who check in on the specific quality you're practicing. And be that reminder for others. Peter leaves written reminders that outlive his tent; we can leave living reminders in the people we disciple.

#### CONCLUSION

Put it together: remember your cleansing (clear the fog), make your calling firm (steady your steps), and stay under holy reminders (keep your sight). Do this, and nearsighted faith learns to see again—until the day we fold this tent and step into the kingdom that's been richly supplied to us.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1. Where have you noticed "grace-amnesia" (v. 9) in your life lately, and what simple practice helps you remember your cleansing?
- 2. Which one quality from 2 Peter 1:5–7 will you practice intentionally this week to "make it firm" (vv. 10–11)? What's your first step?
- 3. Who are your "reminder people"? If you don't have them, who will you invite into that role, and what will you ask them to do?
- 4. How does thinking of your body as a temporary "tent" (vv. 13–14) clarify your priorities right now?
- 5. What written or digital reminders (verses, alarms, notes) could help keep you "stirred up" between gatherings?

#### **CLOSING PRAYER:**

Abba, thank You for cleansing us through Yeshua. Where we've grown nearsighted, restore our sight. By Your Ruach, help us make every effort to confirm what You have graciously given. Surround us with holy reminders and make us faithful reminders for others. Keep us clear-eyed, steady-footed, and full of love until our tent is folded and we step into Your richly supplied kingdom. In the name of Yeshua our Messiah, Amen.